



## The CSO Weekly Report

September 11, 2009/ Issue 31.09

Coastal States Organization

<http://www.coastalstates.org>

*"The Voice of the Coastal States and Territories on Ocean, Coastal & Great Lakes Affairs"*

*On the Hill...*

### **HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE HOLDS HEARING ON AQUACULTURE**

On September 9, the House Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, led by Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU), held an oversight hearing on Offshore Aquaculture. The hearing included testimony from two panels. The first panel consisted of Dr. James Balsiger, Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Mr. Michael Sutton, Commissioner, California Fish and Game Commission, Vice President, Center for the Future of the Oceans. The second panel consisted of: Dr. George Leonard, Director, Aquaculture Program, Ocean Conservancy; Mr. Ken Hinman, President, National Coalition for Marine Conservation; Mr. Mark Vinsel, Executive Director, United Fishermen of Alaska; Mr. Neil Anthony Sims, Co-Founder and President, Kona Blue Water Farms, Inc.; Mr. Bill Cox, Vice Chairman, South Carolina Seafood Alliance (SCSA); and Mr. Robert Alverson, Executive Director, Fishing Vessel Owners Association. To view the archived hearing:

[http://resourcescommittee.house.gov/index.php?option=com\\_jcalpro&Itemid=59&extmode=view&extid=285](http://resourcescommittee.house.gov/index.php?option=com_jcalpro&Itemid=59&extmode=view&extid=285).

### **HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE HOLDS HEARING ON CLEAN ENERGY**

On September 9, the House Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, led by Rep. Jim Costa (D-CA), held a legislative hearing on *The American Conservation and Clean Energy Independence Act* (H.R. 2227). The bill, introduced on May 4 by Representative Tim Murphy (R-PA) would enhance America's path toward energy independence and economic and national security, to conserve energy use, to promote innovation, to achieve lower emissions, cleaner air, cleaner water, and cleaner land. The hearing consisted of testimony from two panels. The first panel included Rep. Murphy and Representative Neil Abercrombie (D-HI). The second panel included Mr. Athan Manuel, Director, Lands Protection Program, Sierra Club, and Mr. Doug Morris, Group Director, Upstream & Industry Operations, American Petroleum Institute. To view the hearing testimony list:

[http://resourcescommittee.house.gov/index.php?option=com\\_jcalpro&Itemid=59&extmode=view&extid=286](http://resourcescommittee.house.gov/index.php?option=com_jcalpro&Itemid=59&extmode=view&extid=286).

*Announcements...*

**SMART GROWTH GUIDE FOR COASTAL AND WATERFRONT COMMUNITIES RELEASED**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the International City/County Management Association and Rhode Island Sea Grant have released "Smart Growth for Coastal and Waterfront Communities". Developed in consultation with the national Smart Growth Network, this interagency guide builds on the network's ten smart growth principles to create coastal and waterfront-specific strategies for development. The guide includes an overview of the unique development challenges and opportunities along the water and provides specific approaches to development that include a description of the issues, tools and techniques, and case studies. "Smart Growth for Coastal and Waterfront Communities" is intended for planners, local government officials, developers, residents, and other stakeholders. For more information and a PDF version of the publication: <http://www.coastalsmartgrowth.noaa.gov>.

#### **REPORT WARNS OF THREATS TO CORAL TRIANGLE DUE TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

A recent World Wildlife Fund (WWF) commissioned report warns of threats to coral reefs due to the changing climate. The report, *Coral Triangle and Climate Change: Ecosystems, People and Societies at Risks*, sets out the full extent of the threats to the Coral Triangle region of the Pacific Ocean and proposes solutions to the challenges facing the area and its people. Based on a thorough consideration of the climate, biology, economics and social characteristics of the region, it shows why these challenges are increasing, and how unchecked climate change will ultimately undermine and destroy ecosystems and livelihoods in the Coral Triangle. To read the report:

<http://www.worldwildlife.org/climate/Publications/WWFBinaryitem12504.pdf>.

#### **REPORT ON ARCTIC CLIMATE FEEDBACKS AND GLOBAL IMPLICATIONS**

A World Wildlife Fund (WWF) commissioned report shows how warming and acidification in the Arctic will likely have far-reaching impacts throughout the world, resulting in a sharp increase in harmful greenhouse gases and significant shifts in global weather and climate patterns that could disrupt the lives and livelihoods of millions of people. The study finds that Arctic sea ice is melting at a faster than expected pace, with major implications well beyond the region. These include changes in temperature and precipitation patterns in North America and Europe that will affect agriculture, forestry, and water supplies. The report also predicts that the negative effects of Arctic warming could make global climate change more severe than indicated by other recent projections, including those of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's 2007 assessment, and also concludes that sea-levels will very likely rise by more than one meter by 2100--- more than twice the amount given in the IPCC's 2007 assessment. The associated flooding of coastal regions will affect more than a quarter of the world's population. To read the report: <http://www.worldwildlife.org/what/wherewework/arctic/WWFBinaryitem13543.pdf>.

#### **CYBER-ENABLED LEARNING COMMUNITY FOR SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN DEVELOPMENT**

The National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE) has been awarded a three-year grant of \$1,666,820 by the National Science Foundation to create a nationwide cyber-enabled learning community for solutions to climate change to be known as CAMEL (Climate, Adaptation, and Mitigation e-Learning). CAMEL will engage experts in science, policy and decision-making, education, and assessment in the production of a virtual toolbox of curricular resources designed for teaching climate change causes, consequences, and solutions. The project was developed by the Council of Environmental Deans and Directors (CEDD), which is managed by NCSE. CAMEL's objectives are to: assist faculty at institutions of higher education across the United States as they create, improve, test, and share resources for teaching students not only how to diagnose climate change problems, but also to identify and effect solutions; ensure that materials developed and shared are founded on the best available scientific information and follow the most appropriate educational practices; build a community of researchers, educators, and students engaged in teaching about climate change causes, consequences, and solutions; Develop cyberinfrastructure that will support and promote the creation of materials and community; and evaluate the determinants of successful community building using cybermedia. The CAMEL project will commence in October. Presentations on CAMEL will take place during the upcoming meeting of the

[Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences](#) (AESS) in Madison, WI from October 8-11, as well as at the meetings of CEDD in Washington, DC on January 23, 2010 and at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, CO from July 6-8, 2010. For more information: <http://www.ncseonline.org/CEDD/cms.cfm?id=2348>.

### **25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NEW YORK STATE GIS CONFERENCE**

On October 25-27, the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual New York State (NYS) Geographic Information Systems (GIS) conference will be held at the Crowne Plaza in Lake Placid, NY. The NYS GIS conference has a long standing tradition of providing attendees with an opportunity to meet fellow New Yorkers active in the GIS field, exchange information and real experiences, and seek solutions to your geographic data management needs. For more information, including a full agenda of the meeting:

<http://www.esf.edu/nysgisconf/2009/agenda.htm>. To register:

<http://www.esf.edu/nysgisconf/2009/register.htm>.

*Vacancies...*

### **COASTAL WATERSHED GIS SPECIALIST VACANCY**

Consolidated Safety Services, Inc. (CSS) is seeking a Coastal Watershed GIS Specialist to work at NOAA's Center for Coastal Monitoring & Assessment (CCMA). This is not a federal position. The successful candidate will be a person with a degree in biological and/or physical sciences, with demonstrated experience in marine biology and ecology. CCMA is developing interdisciplinary methods for assessing the impacts of land based sources of pollution on coral reef ecosystems. The successful candidate will contribute to CCMA research that defines conservation and management options for watersheds and associated coastal ecosystems. Candidates must have an M.S. or equivalent experience in Environmental Science, Hydrology, Landscape Ecology, Spatial Ecology, Environmental Engineering, Geography, Biology or a related field and possess strong experience in Geographic Information Systems, especially ArcGIS. To apply: email resume and salary requirements to [spjobs@consolidatedsafety.com](mailto:spjobs@consolidatedsafety.com) by September 25, 2009. Please include the words "Coastal Watershed GIS Specialist" in the subject line of your email application. Applications can also be submitted online:

<http://www.consolidatedsafety.com/careers/position-detail/marine-scientist-coastal-watershed-gis-specialist/>.

\*\*\* The next Weekly Report will be published on September 18, 2009. \*\*\*

To *subscribe* to the CSO Weekly Report send an email to

[CSOweeklyreport-request@coastalstatesnews.org](mailto:CSOweeklyreport-request@coastalstatesnews.org) with the word "subscribe" in the subject line. If you have received this message, there is no need to re-subscribe, you are already signed up.

To *unsubscribe*, send an email to

[CSOweeklyreport-request@coastalstatesnews.org](mailto:CSOweeklyreport-request@coastalstatesnews.org) with the word "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

Note - Any text in the actual email will have NO effect on this process. For questions or to submit stories for consideration in the next Weekly Report send an email to Julia Wyman at

[jwyman@coastalstatesnews.org](mailto:jwyman@coastalstatesnews.org).